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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



OF KIDSGROVE

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT

FOR

1954



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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF KIDSGROVE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR

1954

Chairman Public Health Committee:

J. BENTHAM, Esq., C.A.

URBAN DISTRICT OF KIDSGROVE

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority :

Medical Officer of Health

J. TOLLAND, L.R.C.P., Ed., L.R.C.S., Ed., D.P.H.

N. ROCHE, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Chief Sanitary Inspector, Housing Officer
and Cleansing Superintendent

G. JONES, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector

F. J. ROGERS, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector

District Health Visitors (*under control of County Council*)

Newchapel District: Nurse A. Leese, S.R.N., S.C.M., 3, Clare Street,
Harriseahead.

Kidsgrove District: Vacant.

Talke District: Vacant.

District Midwives (*under control of County Council*)

Nurse S. T. Heath, S.R.N., S.C.M., 11, Moorland Raod, Mow Cop.
(Phone: Biddulph 2160)

Nurse B. Webb, S.R.N., S.C.M., The Mount, Kidsgrove.
(Phone: Kidsgrove 211)

Miss A. Wrigley, S.C.M., 23, Monument Road, Talke Pits.
(Phone: Kidsgrove 29)

General Nurses (*under control of County Council*)

Nurse M. E. Graham, 75, Congleton Road, Butt Lane, Talke.
(Phone: Kidsgrove 87)

Nurse H. Ford, The Avenue, Kidsgrove.
(Phone: Kidsgrove 257)

Mr. W. Lawrence, 75, Fifth Avenue, Kidsgrove.
(Phone: Kidsgrove 472)

ANNUAL REPORT of the MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1954.

To: THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE KIDSGROVE URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report for 1954.

The Registrar-General's estimated population shows a further increase of 220 over last year's figure.

Live births show a slight increase but the Birth Rate in the District is slightly below that for England and Wales. The still-birth rate also shows a slight increase, there being 9 still-births during the year.

Deaths show a decrease of 3, but there was no appreciable fall in the Death Rate. Diseases of the Cardio-vascular system continue to constitute the major cause of death, accounting for 70 out of a total of 163 deaths, with Cancer as the second major cause accounting for 28 deaths.

The infant mortality rate at 42.5 is considerably above the national rate of 25.5, and has increased from 25.7 during the past year. Of the 12 infant deaths which occurred, 7 were due to causes not amenable to present day medical treatment, and the remaining 5 were due to causes which are amenable to treatment and must be regarded as possibly preventable.

The incidence of Scarlet Fever decreased, there being only 9 cases, compared with 10 during the previous year. The incidence of reported cases of Measles showed a striking decrease, being 41 cases compared with 184 cases during 1953. The number of reported cases of Whooping Cough also fell from 57 cases in 1953. to 1 case for 1954.

No recorded case of food poisoning occurred during the year.

The health of the population continued to compare very favourably with that of the surrounding districts and reflects the work of all those concerned with Public Health.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

JOHN TOLLAND,

Medical Officer of Health.

A.—(1) STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

AREA

The area of the Urban District is 4,095 acres.

POPULATION, ETC.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population for 1954 is 16,760, which shows an increase in population of 220 from the previous year.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1954 was estimated to be 4,900.

RATEABLE VALUE, ETC.

The rateable value of the Urban District at 31/3/54 was £63,452, and the sum represented by a penny rate in the £ was £245.

GENERAL

The Urban District is divided into three Wards:

The Kidsgrove Ward.

The Talke Ward, and

The Newchapel Ward.

The district is an industrial and residential one, several new industries having been established in the area.

A.—(2) VITAL STATISTICS.

LIVE BIRTHS :

	Total	Male	Female		
Legitimate	274	135	139		
Illegitimate	8	3	5		
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population (Corrected)	...	...	...	...	13.5
Birth Rate of England & Wales per 1,000 estimated population	...	...	...	...	15.2

STILL BIRTHS :

	Total	Male	Female		
Legitimate	9	4	5		
Illegitimate	0	0	0		
Rate per 1,000 total births	...	...	...	...	30.9
Rate per 1,000 estimated population	...	...	...	...	0.54
Rate per 1,000 total births England & Wales	...	...	...	...	23.4

INFANT MORTALITY :

Deaths of Infants under 1 year:

	Total	Male	Female		
Legitimate	11	6	5		
Illegitimate	1	1	0		
Death Rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	40.14
Death Rate of all infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	42.5
Infantile Mortality Rate of England & Wales per 1,000 live births...	...	...	...	...	25.5

DEATHS :

	Total	Male	Female		
	163	85	78		
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population (Corrected)	...	...	...	...	12.1
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population England & Wales	...	...	...	...	11.3

(All the above rates are calculated on the estimated population given by the Registrar General).

NATURAL INCREASE OF THE POPULATION :

The number of births in excess of deaths in 1954 was 119, as compared with 106 in 1953 and 92 in 1952.

AGES AT DEATH:

Infants under 1 year	...	12
1 to 10 years	...	2
10 to 20 years	...	2
20 to 30 years	...	1
30 to 40 years	...	5
40 to 50 years	...	4
50 to 60 years	...	19
60 to 70 years	...	39
70 to 80 years	...	55
Over 80 years	...	24
Over 90 years	...	0

Total 163 Deaths

CAUSES OF DEATH:

1. Tuberculosis	...	2
2. Diphtheria	...	0
3. Whooping Cough	...	0
4. Meningococcal Infections	...	1
6. Measles	...	0
7. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	...	0
5. Acute Poliomyelitis	...	0
8. Cancer	...	28
9. Diabetes	...	2
10. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	...	17
11. Coronary Disease, Angina	...	22
12. Other Heart Disease	...	22
13. Other Circulatory Disease	..	9
14. Influenza	...	1
15. Pneumonia	...	7
16. Bronchitis	...	17
17. Other Diseases of Respiratory System	...	5
18. Ulcers of Stomach and Duodenum	...	1
19. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	...	2
20. Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	3
21. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	...	0
22. Congenital Malformations	...	1
23. Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	2
24. Other Accidents	...	1
25. Other Causes	...	19
26. Suicide	...	1

Total 163 Deaths

This total includes 43 transferable deaths.
There was no maternal death in 1954.

B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

1. PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY (see page 1).

2. (a) LABORATORY FACILITIES.—Laboratory arrangements for the examination of sputum, swabs, water, milk and foodstuffs are undertaken by the Public Health Laboratory Service (at Stafford).

(b) AMBULANCE SERVICE.—The Ambulance Service is maintained by the Staffordshire County Council Ambulance Service under the National Health Service Act, 1946. Ambulances are available for all types of cases from the Stations at the Town Hall, Kidsgrove, and at Newcastle.

3. DOMICILIARY NURSING AND MIDWIFERY SERVICE.—Satisfactory Nursing Service is available in the Urban District by the Nursing Staff of the County Council. There are normally three Health Visitors, one for each Ward. Their duties include advice and care to all members of the family. They visit the expectant mother, infants, both the pre-school and school child, other members of the household and also the aged. In addition, these Health Visitors are also School Nurses and visit the schools in the district. Three District Home Nurses give home treatment as required by the General Practitioners and Hospital Doctors. Domiciliary midwifery cases are cared for by three Midwives resident in the Urban District.

4. DOMESTIC HELP SCHEME.—This is operated by the County Council, and Domestic Helps can be obtained by application to the Area Medical Officer at Moreton House, Wolstanton. They assist with the domestic duties in homes where there is illness or recent confinement.

5. CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.—Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics are held at Kidsgrove, Harriseahead and Talke as follows:-

Day Nursery, Liverpool Road, Kidsgrove ...	Monday Afternoon (Child Welfare)
Day Nursery, Liverpool Road, Kidsgrove ...	Wednesday Afternoon (Ante-Natal)
New Road Methodist School, Talke ...	Thursday Afternoon (Child Welfare)
Harriseahead Methodist School ...	Tuesday Afternoon (Ante-Natal and Child Welfare)

These Clinics are staffed by Medical and Nursing Staff of the County Council. School Clinics are held regularly by the School Medical Officer of the County Council.

There are two Nursery Schools available, each capable of taking 40 children.

6. HOSPITAL SERVICE:

There are no Hospital or Maternity Homes situated within the Urban District. The Urban District, however, is well served by Hospitals and Maternity Homes in the adjacent City of Stoke-on-Trent, and these are administered by the Stoke-on-Trent Hospital Management Committee of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board.

General medical and surgical in-patients', casualty treatment and out-patients' clinics are dealt with at the North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary and the City General Hospital. Children are seen and treated at the North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary and orthopaedic cases at this hospital and also at the Cripples' Hospital, Hartshill.

Venereal disease cases can obtain advice and treatment at the North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary and the Municipal Treatment Centre, Wellesley Street, Hanley.

Maternity cases are admitted to the Fanny Deakin Maternity Home, The "Limes" Maternity Hospital and the Maternity Unit of the City General Hospital, and an emergency flying squad operates from this last centre.

Infectious disease cases are sent to the Bucknall Isolation Hospital. There is a Chest Clinic at Newcastle-under-Lyme, where patients suspected of suffering from Tuberculosis are seen, and treatment is carried out in the various Sanatoria throughout the County. For Smallpox, the County Council have trained and equipped ambulance personnel at the Newcastle Ambulance Station, to convey such cases to a special Hospital set aside for this purpose.

7. NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948-51, SECTION 47 (as amended):

One case was dealt with under the provisions of these Acts during the year, which necessitated the removal of an elderly lady to the Westcliffe Hospital as being in need of care and attention.

C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. WATER:

The whole of the Urban District is now supplied with water by the Staffordshire Potteries Water Board. The water is of good quality and the supply is well maintained throughout the year.

Total number of premises with piped supply...	...	...	4,880
Total number of premises without piped supply	...	...	20

which total includes farms, and isolated cottages.

2. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE: Practically the whole of the district is provided with sewers; the sewage being conveyed to the Rookery or Red Bull Sewage Works.

ROOKERY SEWAGE WORKS: This works which receives sewage from the Newchapel Ward, is overloaded.

RED BULL SEWAGE WORKS: This works, which receives sewage from the Kidsgrove and Talke Wards, in addition to sewage from premises situated in the City of Stoke-on-Trent, is overloaded.

SEPTIC TANKS AND FILTERS AND CESSPOOLS: There are a number of these throughout the district, the majority of which are in connection with private drainage systems. In my opinion, no further schemes involving this method of sewerage treatment should be considered.

3. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL: KIDSGROVE AND TALKE WARDS:

These Wards are completely sewered, the Talke Ward being resewered in 1938-39. One pumping station was included in the scheme which was designed so as to allow for anticipated development.

The sewage from the two Wards is combined, and the outfall works are situated at Red Bull, Lawton, where the treatment process is one of sedimentation and bacteriological filtration.

The average daily dry weather flow for the combined wards is 370,000 gallons per day approx.

The average combined daily dry weather flow from the wards is 600,000 gallons per day approx.

NEWCHAPEL WARD:

About 90 per cent of the ward is sewered, the outfall works are situated at Rookery where the same treatment process is carried out as for the Kidsgrove and Talke wards.

The average dry weather flow is 130,000 gallons per day approx.

The average combined dry weather flow is 320,000 gallons per day approx.

4. PUBLIC CLEANSING:

(1) REFUSE COLLECTION:

Is under the control of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, and is carried out by the Council's workmen under a system of direct labour.

Is normally collected once fortnightly. Modern covered motor vehicles are used for the purpose, and sanitary bins are in general use throughout the area.

In view of a recent High Court decision, it is advised that the Council consider providing dust bins for a fixed annual charge.

(2). REFUSE DISPOSAL:

The refuse from Kidsgrove and Talke Wards is taken to a controlled tip at Talke Hurst, Butt Lane, which is outside the district. Refuse from the Newchapel Ward is taken to a controlled tip at Trubshaw Farm.

5. NIGHTSOIL:

The Council's covered vehicle, complete with a steel watertight tank, is used for nightsoil collection. The collection of nightsoil is carried out once a fortnight throughout the whole of the Urban District.

In my opinion, closet emptying should be carried out weekly.

The nightsoil is disposed of by tipping into a conveniently situated inlet adjacent to the Rookery Sewerage Works.

6. CLOSET ACCOMMODATION (PAILS AND PRIVIES, ETC.):

During the year 7 conversions were carried out. Details of remaining closet accommodation (pails, privies, etc.) are as follows:-

	Fixed Earthenware Receptacles	Privies	Moveable Receptacles	Chemical Closets	Cess- pools, etc.
Talke Ward— Houses (including Farms and Inns) ...	138	60	4	—	18
Additional Closet at Houses, Inns and Farms	1	—	—	2	—
Kidsgrove Ward— Houses	41 4	12 —	1 —	— —	— —
Factories, etc. ...	5	2	—	—	—
Newchapel Ward— Houses (including Farms and Inns) ...	99	8	28	—	8
	288	82	33	2	26

7. FOOD PREPARING PREMISES:

Seventeen premises are registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausage or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food.

Forty-five premises are registered for the sale or manufacture or storage of ice cream, or iced lollies.

8. OFFENSIVE TRADES:

There are no Offensive Trades in the Urban District.

9. MILK AND DAIRIES:

(a) There are 16 registered dairies in the district, other than dairy farms, and 55 distributors of milk apart from retailers from outside the area

D.—HOUSING.

The following schedules illustrate the progress made in housing from the end of the war, until 31st December, 1954

1.—(i) The first sites developed were as follows:-

Estate	Houses to be erected	Contracts arranged	Houses Commenced	Houses Completed
Talke Pits Estate	62	62	62	62
Banbury Street, Talke	36	36	36	36
Mow Cop Estate	58	58	58	58
Woodshutts Estate	376	376	376	376
Total ...	532	532	532	532

(ii) The second phase of the Council's Housing Programme provided for developing the further sites indicated below:-

Estate	Houses to be erected	Contracts arranged	Houses Commenced	Houses Completed
Ashenough Estate	80	80	80	80
Galleys Bank Estate	74	74	74	74
Crown Bank Estate	26	26	26	26
Crown Bank Estate	100	100	100	100
Fith Avenue	10	10	10	10
Lower Ash Estate	134	134	134	134
Woodshutts Estate	16	16	16	16
Woodshutts Estate (Flats) ...	3	3	3	3
Galleys Bank Estate Frontage	14	14	14	4
Galleys Bank Estate Extensions	26	26	26	—
Rookery Estate	68	68	68	—
Whitehall Estate Entrance ...	3	3	3	—
Total ...	554	554	554	479

(iii) The Coal Industry Housing Association which commenced building in 1952 made steady progress on the Shingler type built solely for employees of the National Coal Board, and the position at the end of 1953 was as follows:-

Estate	Houses to be erected	Houses Commenced	Houses Tenanted	Houses Completed
Whitehall Estate	450	450	239	292

It is of interest to note that of the 239 houses tenanted, 169 were tenanted by miners from other areas; and 70 were local miners.

(iv) During the year a private estate for employees of the English Electric Co. Ltd. was commenced, the details of which are set out below:-

Estate	Houses to be erected	Houses Commenced	Houses Completed
Clough Hall Estate (Kingsway Housing Association)	30	30	4

D.—HOUSING—Continued

(v) The number of Licences issued to private builders for the erection of houses during the year ended 31st December, 1954, is given below:-

Ward of U.D.							Number of Licences issued	Houses Commenced	Houses Completed
Kidsgrove	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	15	10
Talke	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	3
Newchapel	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	19	17
Total							22	37	30

The total number of houses completed includes some which were commenced in 1953.

2.—INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:

The following schedule illustrates the action taken with regard to insanitary properties during the year, the information contained therein as required by the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925, as amended by the Housing Consolidated (Amendment) Regulations, 1932.

(i)	The number of houses which, on inspection, were considered to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	21
(ii)	The number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers						5
(iii)	The number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to						
	(a) the serving of notices requiring the execution of works	...	...	...	...	...	18
	(b) the making of demolition or closing orders	...	...	...	...	...	12
(iv)	The number of notices served requiring the execution of works	...	...	...	...	...	2
(v)	The number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	...	...	...	...	...	1
(vi)	The number of demolition or closing orders made	...	...	...	...	...	3
(vii)	The number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under sub-section (2) of Section 19 of Housing Act, 1930						Nil
(viii)	The number of houses demolished	...	...	...	...	...	30

3.—HOUSING ACT, 1936. PART IV.

OVERCROWDING: It has not been possible to obtain any accurate figures with regard to overcrowding, although the greater majority of the 94 families rehoused by the Council from within the Urban District had been living under overcrowded conditions.

E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY:

The purity of the milk produced within the area or brought for sale appears to have been satisfactory.

Samples of milk are taken by the Inspectors of the County Council for bacteriological examination. Local Authorities are advised as to unsatisfactory samples.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS:

Prior to June 1954, meat was supplied from a Ministry of Food Distributing Centre, but from that date private slaughtering was re-introduced and a rigorous system of meat inspection established within the Urban District.

(c) ADULTERATION:

Samples of Milk and other Foods are taken by Inspectors of the County for Chemical Examination by the County Analyst at Stafford.

F.—PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

There were 36 cases of notifiable infectious Diseases under the Public Health Act (including Tuberculosis) during the year. There were also 41 cases of Measles and 1 case of Whooping Cough, notified under the Measles and Whooping Cough Regulations. 9 cases of Scarlet Fever were removed to Bucknall Isolation Hospital.

These were distributed as follows:-

Disease	Kidsgrove Ward	Talke Ward	Newchapel Ward	Total
Scarlet Fever	7	—	2	9
Pneumonia	2	2	4	8
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	1	—	1
Measles	3	30	8	41
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	10	4	1	15
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	3	—	4
Grand Total				78

Other details concerning these Diseases may be obtained from the tables forming an appendix to the report.

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1954

Age Periods	New Cases—19				Deaths—2			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
5—15	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
25—35	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
65 and upwards...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	7	8	2	2	2	—	—	—

The total cases notified include 2 transfers.

Further tables giving an analysis of the Diseases notified month by month, and according to age, are to be found at the end of the report.

G.—FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

PART 1. OF THE ACT

1.—INSPECTIONS for the purpose of provisions as to health, during 1954.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	7	8	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	41	38	2	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises ...	6	9	—	—
Total	54	55	2	—

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecu- tions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) ...	2	2	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	4	4	—	1	—

PART VIII. OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out- workers in August list required by Sect. 110(1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises (5)	Notices Served (6)	Prosecu- tions (7)
Wearing apparel. Making, etc. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY
INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1954.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL OF KIDSGROVE

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my ANNUAL REPORT for the year 1954.

GENERAL INSPECTIONS.

The following tables present a summary of visits and inspections made by your Sanitary Officers, and sanitary improvements effected during the year 1954.

1. VISITS AND INSPECTIONS :

Dwelling Houses (Nuisances) etc.	...	...	...	...	761
Verminous Premises—visits and revisits...	...	...	...	...	15
Infectious Diseases—visits and revisits	...	...	...	...	63
Infectious Diseases—Disinfections	...	...	...	...	12
Drainage—Enquiries	...	...	...	...	92
Drainage—Smoke Test	...	...	...	...	9
Drainage—Water Test	...	...	...	...	83
Ditches and Streams	...	...	...	...	31
Stables	...	...	...	...	7
Accumulations, yards, etc.	...	...	...	...	15
Rodent infestation	...	...	...	...	282
Places of Public Entertainment	...	...	...	...	7
Factories and Workplaces	...	...	...	...	55
Supervision over Refuse Collections and Disposal	...	...	...	...	93
Food Premises	...	...	...	...	278
Milk samples, enquiries, etc.	...	...	...	...	29
Shops Act	...	...	...	...	109
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	22
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	869
					2,632

2. SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS :

Ceiling Plaster repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	47
Chimneys or Chimney Stacks repaired	...	...	...	...	11
Dangerous Walls repaired	...	...	...	...	9
Doors repaired, rehung or renewed	...	...	...	...	28
Eaves—Gutters, cleaned out, repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	36
External Walls pointed	...	...	...	...	15
Downspouts repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	13
Firegrates repaired, reset or renewed	...	...	...	...	17
Floors repaired, ventilated, etc.	...	...	...	...	35
Ovens repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	6
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	27
Sashcords renewed	...	...	...	...	12
Sink—draining Boards renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	8
Sinks (new) provided and fixed	...	...	...	...	13
Sink Waste Pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	19
Skirting Boards repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	10
Stairs repaired, renewed or provided	...	...	...	...	21
Walls rendered internally	...	...	...	...	24
Wall Plaster repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	112
Water Supplies repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	67
Windows repaired, made to open, etc.	...	...	...	...	24
Yards and Passages paved and drained	...	...	...	...	11
Choked Drains cleansed	...	...	...	...	48
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	5
Gullies (additional) provided and connected to drains	...	...	...	...	7
Intercepting Traps provided or renewed	...	...	...	...	6
Manhole Covers renewed	...	...	...	...	12
W.C. Basins renewed	...	...	...	...	33
W.C. Cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	48
W.C. Structures repaired or renewed	10
Soil Ventilating Pipes repaired or renewed	2

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3. ENFORCEMENT OF REPAIRS :

Repairs to private dwelling houses have been effected by informal action, and also by the service of Statutory Notices under the Public Health Act and Housing Acts. No court action was necessary during the year.

4. SLUM CLEARANCE :

During the year a start was made on the Council's Slum Clearance Programme, which is of considerable magnitude. In the Kidsgrove Ward, 29 houses were demolished in Liverpool Road, thereby removing from the district a particularly bad area, which fronting on the main road, was likely to give travellers passing through the town a wrong impression of the area as a whole.

5. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD :

A.—SLAUGHTERING AND SLAUGHTERHOUSES:

On 29th June, 1954, the control of the Ministry of Food over slaughtering officially ended, and from that date slaughtering has taken place within the Urban District at five licenced slaughter houses. These slaughter houses had all been in use prior to 1939, when private slaughtering ceased. All have renovated in accordance with the Council's requirements.

There are now facilities within the Urban District sufficient to meet the demand of the consumer with meat, without recourse to outside sources and the previous practice of supplying meat from a distributing centre in the adjacent City of Stoke-on-Trent has now ceased.

Occasional slaughtering of pigs for home consumption is still practised but the number of licences issued for this purpose have greatly reduced.

B.—SLAUGHTERMEN:

There are now 31 slaughtermen licenced under the provisions of the slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933-1954.

The slaughtermen have co-operated with my Department in the task of re-organisation of the meat inspection system and it has only been found necessary to issue verbal cautions where incorrect or faulty procedure was found.

C.—MEAT INSPECTIONS:

The problems of meat inspection attendant upon the freeing of slaughtering have caused a considerable increase in the duties carried out by the P.H. Department for it was dcided from the outset that there should be 100% inspection of all meat slaughtered within the Urban District, as well as inspection of meat brought in from other districts which had not previously been inspected. It is generally agreed that the general quality of the meat supplied throughout the Urban District has now risen considerably, no doubt due to the policy of the local butchers to purchase wherever possible only the best quality live stock.

D.—The following tables give details of the number of carcases inspected, and the numbers condemned:-

TABLE 1

Month	Numbers inspected				Equivalent cattle units	Total condemnations
	Cattle	Calves	Pigs	Sheep		
July ...	114	4	23	280	182 cattle units	1387 lbs. weight
August	113	1	47	527	241 cattle units	2333 lbs. weight
September	110	10	139	489	280 cattle units	1145 lbs. weight
October	142	8	181	368	308 cattle units	2327 lbs. weight
November	141	4	167	358	296 cattle units	1841 lbs. weight
December	100	3	323	220	306 cattle units	860 lbs. weight
Totals	720	30	880	2242	1613 cattle units	9893 lbs. weight

Total weight of carcases and offals condemned: 4 tons, 17 cwts., 1 qtr., 1 st., 7 lbs.

TABLE II

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	720	30	2242	880
Number inspected	720	30	2242	880
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis:</i>				
Whole carcasses condemned	1	—	1	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	108	4	1237	21
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	15.1	13.3	55.2	2.6
<i>Tuberculosis only:</i>				
Whole carcasses condemned	6	—	—	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	118	—	—	13
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	17.2	—	—	1.7

E.—OTHER FOODS:

The following foods were surrendered as unfit for human consumption:-

CONDEMNED FOODS:-

Article	Tins	Pkts.	Jars	Lbs.	Ozs
Apple Pudding ...	9	—	—	9	0
Apple Sauce	13	—	—	11	14½
Apricots	10	—	—	14	4
Bacon	3	—	—	46	4
Beans	17	—	—	17	0
Blackberries	—	—	2	3	0
Cherries	21	—	—	19	6½
Corned Beef	5	—	—	27	9
Cream	2	—	—		12
Figs	—	27	—	13	8
Fish Paste	—	—	10	1	4
Fruit Salad	4	—	—	3	12
Gooseberries	2	—	—	2	8

CONDEMNED FOODS—*Continued*

Article	Tins	Pkts.	Jars	Lbs.	Ozs
Ham	9	—	—	98	11
Milk, Condensed ...	32	—	—	32	0
Milk, Evaporated ...	160	—	—	180	8
Oranges	2	—	—	1	0
Peas	6	—	—	3	5
Pears	9	—	—	10	2
Pineapples	3	—	8	10	10
Plums	36	—	—	51	9
Pork	13	—	—	7	5
Pork, Luncheon ...	21	—	—	12	5
Prunes	21	—	—	19	9
Pudding Mixture ...	—	14	—	7	0
Raisins	—	—	—	10	0
Raspberries	7	—	—	5	14½
Rhubarb	4	—	—	4	0
Soups (Various) ...	16	—	—	10	12
Smoked Fillets	—	3	—	1	8
Steak	18	—	—	9	8
Tomatoes	381	—	—	508	8½
Tongue	9	—	—	25	4
	829	44	20	1179	13

Total weight of food condemned during 1954:-

10cwts. 2qrs. 3lbs. 13ozs.

(b) FOODS AND DRUGS ACT (Sampling):

Samples of foods and drugs were taken by the Inspectors of the County Council.

6. WATER SUPPLIES.

(a) PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES:

Throughout the year public water supplies continued to be of a satisfactory quality, and satisfactory results were obtained on examination of samples submitted.

(b) OTHER SUPPLIES:

Samples of water have also been taken from Springs and other natural sources upon requests from farmers and owners of smallholdings.

7. SHOP ACTS.

109 inspections have been carried out during the year.

8. FACTORIES.

Routine visits have been paid to the various factories in the Urban District during the year.

9. INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Where cases of Scarlet Fever have occurred, fumigation has been carried out. Premises have been disinfected in cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

10. CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

During the year 7 conversions were carried out.

11. SALVAGE.

COLLECTION:

All salvaged articles or materials from domestic premises are collected at the same time as refuse, trailers being attached to the refuse vehicles for this purpose. Special journeys are made when these are justified.

SORTING AND BAILING:

(a) AT THE SALVAGE DEPOT—Talke Hurst Tip. One man is employed at this depot, part time, and this is the only additional labour employed for salvage.

Paper (including cardboard) is baled and stored, also Rags.

(b) AT THE TIPS—The collection of tins has ceased in accordance with Ministry instructions. Other salvaged articles separated from the refuse are taken to the Salvage Depot.

DISPOSAL.

The following amounts of salvaged goods have been sold during the year:-

		Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Waste Paper	...	50	1	3	0

Quantities of salvaged metals and textiles were also sold.

12. DISINFESTATION.

(a) DESTRUCTION OF RATS AND MICE:

Is carried out in accordance with the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, the following table giving details of treatments:-

PREVALENCE OF RATS AND MICE.					
	Type of Property				
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agri-cultural	Business & Industrial	Totals
1. Total number of properties in Local Authority's District	12	4900	33	127	5072
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification	—	17	2	23	42
(b) Survey	12	39	—	—	51
(c) Otherwise	—	150	3	36	189
3. Number of Properties inspected, found to be infested by rats:-					
(a) Major	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Minor	5	62	2	14	83
4. Number of Properties inspected, found to be seriously infested by mice	—	11	—	—	11
5. Number of infested properties treated by Local Authority	5	70	2	14	91
6. Number of Notices served requiring:					
(a) Treatment	—	12	—	—	12
(b) Structural works	—	—	—	—	—
7. Number of cases in which default action taken following issue of notice.	—	—	—	—	—
8. Legal Proceedings	No legal proceedings instituted				
9. Number of Block Control Schemes carried out	Nil.				

There was no undue presence of rats and mice within the Urban District, and the treatments carried out proved adequate in every case.

(b) SEWER TREATMENTS:

During the year a preliminary survey was carried out of the sewers and culverts in the major portion of the Kidsgrove and Butt Lane Wards. This survey was followed by a full-scale treatment of these Wards in collaboration with representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries, and good results were obtained from this treatment.

(c) OTHER INFESTATIONS:

Premises have been treated to eradicate ants, bedbugs, fleas, cockroaches and other insects following complaints by the occupants or neighbours.

13. HOUSING.

As a combined Public Health and Housing Department having control of some 1,400 Council Houses, the following figures give an indication of the duties, and it should be noted that the number of housing repair complaints received often mention several separate items which have to be broken down for the appropriate tradesmen to deal with.

(a) REHOUSING:

Number of applications for rehousing received during the year	...	...	224
Number of families visited to assess conditions	...	...	168
Number of families rehoused	...	...	94

(b) COUNCIL HOUSE MAINTENANCE:

Number of complaints received during the year	...	...	1598
Number of reported defects remedied	...	...	3055
Number of reported defects outstanding at 31/12/54	...	...	287

(c) REPAINTING:

Repainting of Council Houses was carried out by Contractors supervised by my Department, and the following table shows the work in this sphere:-

Kidsgrove Estate (Pre-War)	...	...	20 houses
Woodshutts Estate (Post- War)	...	...	198 houses
Talke Pits Estates	...	...	24 houses
Galleys Bank Estates	..	...	74 houses
Harriseahead Lane	...	...	10 houses
Total number of houses repainted	...	...	326 houses

(d) GENERAL:

It is estimated that approximately 3,500 general enquiries were dealt with during the year.

I am, Yours faithfully,
N. ROCHE, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
Chief Sanitary Inspector and Housing Officer.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED MONTH BY MONTH

DISEASES		Total notified	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Scarlet Fever	... ..	9	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	2	1	—	1	2
Malaria	... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	... ..	8	—	4	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Erysipelas	... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever	... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Measles	... ..	41	4	3	2	4	18	8	2	—	—	—	—	—
Polioencephalitis	... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic and Non-Paralytic)	... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary T.B.	... ..	15	—	1	2	2	2	1	—	1	2	2	1	1
Non-Pulmonary T.B.	... ..	4	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
TOTALS		78	4	8	4	8	22	10	5	5	3	3	3	3

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED ACCORDING TO AGE

DISEASES	At all ages	under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & over	Age unk'n
Scarlet Fever	9	—	—	—	—	1	6	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	8	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	2	—	1	2	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Measles	41	1	2	5	6	8	18	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polioencephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic and Non-Paralytic)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary T.B.	15	—	—	—	2	—	2	2	—	5	2	2	—	—
Non-Pulmonary T.B.	4	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	78	1	2	6	8	9	30	5	1	8	2	3	2	1

